

Message Text

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ACTION PC-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 /063 W

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R 211600Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 281

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PASS PEACE CORPS AND AID

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID HA

SUBJ: VISIT OF VITO STAGLIANO JULY 6-19: RENEWED ATTEMPT TO
CLARIFY FOR GOH ITS DECISION ON POSSIBLE PEACE CORPS
PROGRAM IN HAITI

REF: STATE 118610

1. SUMMARY. WITH STAGLIANO'S ABLE ASSISTANCE, WE HAVE CONDUCTED
WITH INTERESTED MEMBERS OF GOH CABINET ANOTHER EXPLORATORY ROUND
OF DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT GETTING GOH TO MAKE UP ITS MIND WHETHER
IT WANTS A PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN HAITI. WE HAVE PRESENTED A
NEW DRAFT BASIC AGREEMENT, PREPARED BY STAGLIANO DURING VISIT.
AT STAGLIANO'S "EXIT INTERVIEW" JULY 18, FOREIGN SECY BRUTUS SAID HE
WOULD SEE PRES DUVALIER JULY 22 AND WOULD ARGUE FOR PROGRAM. WHILE
WE CANNOT PREDICT OUTCOME OR ONWARD PACE OF GOH DECISION-MAKING
PROCESS, WE WILL STAY IN TOUCH WITH GOH AND WILL REPORT ENSUING
DEVELOPMENTS PROMPTLY. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCOMPANIED BY DCM THOMSON, STAGLIANO HAD SESSIONS WITH
AGRICULTURE SECRETARY JAURES LEVEQUE (JULY 10), PUBLIC HEALTH
SECRETARY DANIEL BEAULIEU (JULY 10), FINANCE SECRETARY AND CONADEP
CHAIRMAN EMMANUEL BROS (JUL 15), AND FOREIGN SECRETARY EDNER
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BRUTUS (JULY 18). LEVEQUE SET UP EXTENSIVE WORKING SESSION JULY

14 AT WHICH STAGLIANO EXPLORED POSSIBLE
PROJECTS WITH 9 SECTION
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. ALL GOH OFFICIALS SEEMED
POSITIVELY IMPRESSED. SOME REFERRED IN GENERALITIES TO UNDERLYING
HESITATION OF GOH IN THE
PAST (WHICH THEY, OF COURSE, DID NOT
PERSONALLY SHARE) TO GET INVOLVED IN PEACE CORPS PROGRAM.
STAGLIANO ALSO HAD OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT EXTENSIVELY WITH AID
OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, AS WELL AS TO GET A LOOK AT
NEARBY RURAL WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

3. WE MADE CLEAR TO ALL CONCERNED THAT FIRST STEP WOULD HAVE TO BE
CONCLUSION OF BASIC AGREEMENT, WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE GOH'S
REQUEST FOR A PC PROGRAM. CURRENT DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE PROJECTS
IN AREAS OF AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC HEALTH WERE ILLUSTRATIVE AND NOT
LIMITING. WE EXPLAINED OBLIGATION GOH WOULD BE EXPECTED TO
UNDERTAKE, DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN POINTS WHICH WERE NEGOTIABLE
AND THOSE WHICH WERE NOT. WE ALSO SKETCHED OUT FOR GOH OFFICIALS
THE STEPS WHICH WOULD FOLLOW NEGOTIATION OF BASIC AGREEMENT AND
THE TIME FRAMES NECESSARY FOR EACH STEP, INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT
OF PC REPRESENTATIVE IN HAITI, AGREEMENT ON INITIAL PROJECTS,
RECRUITMENT OF QUALIFIED PCVS AND INITIAL IN-COUNTRY TRAINING.

4. MEANWHILE, AMBASSADOR REMAINED IN TOUCH WITH BRUTUS AND
PRESENTED HIM ON JULY 16 WITH DRAFT BASIC AGREEMENT (IN ENGLISH
AND FRENCH) WHICH STAGLIANO HAD PREPARED. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD
THIS TEXT WAS FIRST DRAFT, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY BOTH GOVERN-
MENTS. (STAGLIANO HAND-CARRIED COPIES OF BOTH TEXTS BACK TO PC/W;
WE ARE POUCHING COPIES OF BOTH TEXTS TO DEPARTMENT, ARA-LA/CAR).

5. IN INTERVIEW JULY 18 JUST BEFORE STAGLIANO'S DEPARTURE, BRUTUS
INDICATED THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES NOW HAD A GOOD BASIS FOR ASSESS-
ING THE QUESTION, AND SAID HE WOULD "ADVOCATE" A PC PROGRAM
WHEN HE NEXT SAW PRESIDENT DUVALIER, PROBABLY ON TUESDAY, JULY 22.
(THERE IS, OF COURSE, NO ASSURANCE THAT DUVALIER WILL REACH
ANY DECISION PROMPTLY).

6. WE BELIEVE STAGLIANO'S MISSION SHOULD PROVE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN
THOSE WHICH PROCEEDED IT. HE WAS WELL PREPARED, AND HIS TOUCH WAS
JUST RIGHT. THE TWO-WEEK TIME SPAN ALLOWED FOR ADEQUATE
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CONTACT WITH ALL THE KEY CABINET OFFICIALS AS WELL AS OTHERS. THE
TIMING WAS FAVORABLE, SINCE DUVALIER AND ALL SENIOR GOH OFFICIALS
HAVE BEEN SHOWING PROFOUND APPRECIATION FOR QUICK USG RESPONSE TO
DROUGHT PROBLEM IN NORTHWEST HAITI BY EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM
WHICH AID AND VOLAGENCIES HAVE BEEN CARRYING OUT SINCE LATE MAY.

7. WE WILL REPORT BY CABLE ALL SIGNIFICANT REACTIONS AND
DEVELOPMENTS.

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